

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 01098 110929Z

10

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 ABF-01 FS-01 /019 W

----- 119749

R 101640Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2193

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI, YO

SUBJ: SFCP/SMITHSONIAN - SALE OF R/V PHYKOS

REFS: A. BELGRADE 1051, B. BELGRADE 884 C. BELGRADE 877
D. BELGRADE 946

1. EMBASSY HAS TELEX DATED MARCH 7 FROM JUGOBANKA INFORMING US THAT PFEUFFER HAS OPENED IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF CREDIT TO EMBASSY FOR U.S. DOLS 49 THOUSAND, WITH DETAILS TO FOLLOW BY LETTER. IT THUS APPEARS THAT SMITHSONIAN HAS SOLID OFFER BACKED BY CASH TO SELL PHYKOS NOW.

2. UNFORTUNATELY, EMBASSY ACTIONS ON BEHALF OF SMITHSONIAN HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HANDICAPPED BY VERY SLOW SMITHSONIAN RESPONSES. THIS PARTICULARLY TRUE NOW IN CASE OF PHYKOS. CURRENT EXAMPLES ARE LACK OF ANY RESPONSE TO REFS C AND D WHERE TIME IS OBVIOUSLY IMPORTANT.

3. BECAUSE OF CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED REFTEL A, PARA 5, TARDY RESPONSES BY SMITHSONIAN AT PRESENT TIME COULD CREATE SEVERE PROBLEMS, JEOPARDIZE PROSPECTS FOR SALE AND ADD TO EMBASSY'S WORKLOAD.

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4. EMBASSY THEREFORE REQUESTS THAT STATE/OES

REGULARLY CONTACT SMITHSONIAN (WYMBERLEY CMRR)
UNTIL PHYKOS IS SOLD, FIRST TO GET FULL AND QUICK RESPONSE
TO REFTELS, SECOND TO URGE SMITHSONIAN TO PROVIDE SOME
IDEA WHEN ACTION MAY BE EXPECTED AND FINALLY TO REDUCE
ANY BUREAUCRATIC DELAY WHICH MAY EXIST IN TELEGRAPHIC
COMMUNICATIONS FROM SMITHSONIAN TO EMBASSY, AT LEAST
UNTIL PHYKOS SOLD.
TOON

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